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Last night at Lord Home's banquet there was a good deal of jocularity over my letter to Ian Samuel asking to what branch of government I should address myself for permission to shoot crows in the grounds of Winfield House. This matter has been called to the attention of the Foreign Secretary, and I was told by Samuel I would be having a message shortly about it. My letter to Samuel was as follows:

I have heard a lot recently about Joe Alsop's last London trip. He seems to have been catholic about whose toes he treadson. It is said that the Prime Minister, the Foreign Secretary, the Lord Privy Seal, Hugh Gaitskell, and George Brown are numbered among those who will not receive him again.

I dined tonight with Mag Sherwin, sister of Kay Halle. They are both staying with us.

June 2, 1962 - Saturday

This morning the Trooping of the Colour ceremony took place. I think it is the best of all the official spectacles. This year the Colour was that of the Second Battalion of the Coldstream Guards. The Queen looks at her best on a horse. Most of the Diplomatic Corps were present, wearing morning coats and gray top hats. The Prime Minister and a majority of the Cabinet were in an adjoining box. There seemed to be less fainting than usual. I saw only one Guardsman go down. I understand at least one other also fell, but picked himself up and resumed standing at attention. It must be difficult on a ~~sunny day, such as this was, to endure~~ the heat in their heavy scarlet uniforms and their large black busbies. Quite a few spectators were carried out on stretchers. In spite of the sun shining brightly, the weather was, as usual, between 50 and 55 degrees. It looks as if ~~summer would~~ never really come.

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